

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The abstract of the disclosure was objected to. Claims 7 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Claims 5, 6, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zettner et al in view of Deppert et al.

In response to the informalities noted by the Examiner, claims 7 and 13 have been canceled and claims 5 and 10 have been amended. The specification and abstract have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

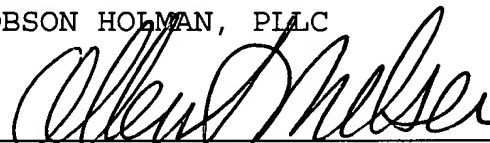
Applicant would like to thank Examiner Ho for the consideration given applicant's attorney at the personal interview of March 30, 2004. At the interview, agreement was reached to patentably distinguish the present invention as defined in claims 5 and 10 over the prior art of record. However, the proposed limitations added to claims 5 and 10 were considered to raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. Accordingly, an RCE has been filed with the amendments to claims 5 and 10 entered by way of Preliminary Amendment. Therefore, in the absence of discovery of more relevant prior art, the application should be in condition for allowance.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 31, 2004
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